

1954

A follow-up study of children accepted
and discharged by the Sweetser
Children's Home from January 1, 1949
to October 1, 1953

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A FOLLOW-UP STUDY OF CHILDREN ACCEPTED
AND DISCHARGED BY THE SWEETSER-CHILDREN'S HOME
FROM JANUARY 1, 1949 TO OCTOBER 1, 1953

A THESIS

Submitted by

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(B. A., University of Massachusetts, 1950)
In Partial Fulfillment of Requirement for the
Degree of Master of Science in Social Service.

1954

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CHAPTER I

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEMPurpose of the Study

This follow-up study is an attempt to obtain a total picture of adjustment made by children following their discharge from the Sweetser-Children's Home.

The writer also has endeavored to present a picture of the child's adjustment while at the Sweetser-Children's Home and, in general, what behavior problems were presented and taken up in the treatment situation.

Scope and Limitations

Thirty-nine cases were studied. This is a fifty per cent random sample of children admitted and discharged from January 1, 1949 to October 1, 1953.

The material in the case records at the Sweetser-Children's Home was not always adequate for the purposes of this study.

The mailed questionnaire method of follow-up study was used.¹ These questionnaires were sent to the Maine State Bureau of Social Welfare, to private agencies, and to private families. Returns varied in completeness and therefore only a superficial picture could be presented at times. With the exception of the private families, the questionnaires received

1. Questionnaire used for this study may be found in the appendix.

from the other two groupings were filled out by the caseworkers for their respective agencies. Questionnaires received from private families were filled out by one or two of child's parents and in one case by child himself.

Method of Procedure and Sources of Data

The material presented on each case during residence was obtained through the case study method for which a schedule was prepared.¹ The cases selected, when read and summarized, were analyzed to determine what problems were taken up in the treatment situation and generally what was the child's adjustment at the Sweetser-Children's Home.

The material presented under the heading "Questionnaire" has been summarized from the questionnaire received on that particular case.

To facilitate the sending out of questionnaires the cases were grouped under three headings; those referred from the Maine State Bureau of Social Welfare²; those referred from private agencies, and those referred from private families.

The total number of cases accepted and discharged from January 1, 1949 to October 1, 1953 was eighty-eight. From this number ten were not used because the residence period of each child was less than three months and no treatment was given.

The resulting seventy-eight cases were broken down into the following groups:

-
- 1. Schedule may be found in the appendix.
 - 2. Hereafter will be referred to as the state.

TABLE I
NUMBER OF CASES BY GROUPS AND PERCENTAGES
TO ACTUAL NUMBER OF CASES USED

	Number of Cases	Per Cent of Total
State	35	45
Private Agencies	18	23
Private Families	<u>25</u>	<u>32</u>
Total	78	100

From the seventy-eight cases a fifty per cent sample was chosen in the following manner:

The percentage of each grouping to the actual number of cases was multiplied by thirty-nine (fifty per cent of seventy-eight) and results rounded out. The result was the number of cases needed in each group to give a representative sample.

TABLE II
PERCENTAGES OF EACH GROUPING TO FIFTY PERCENT SAMPLE

	Per Cent		Sample Number		Number of Cases
State	45	x	39	=	17.55
Private Agencies	23	x	39	=	8.97
Private Families	<u>32</u>	x	39	=	<u>12.48</u>
	<u>100</u>				<u>39.00</u>

The above figures under the last column were rounded out to eighteen cases for the state, nine cases for the private agencies and twelve cases for the private families.

Seventy-eight questionnaires were sent out and fifty-two were received. This is a percentage of sixty-six and two-thirds. The questionnaires that were received were broken down into the years that each child was accepted at the Sweetser-Children's Home.

TABLE III
QUESTIONNAIRES RECEIVED BY YEARS

	State	Private Agencies	Private Families
Jan. 1, 1949 to Jan. 1, 1950	7	1	2
Jan. 1, 1950 to Jan. 1, 1951	8	3	6
Jan. 1, 1951 to Jan. 1, 1952	7	2	2
Jan. 1, 1952 to Jan. 1, 1953	1	5	6
Jan. 1, 1953 to Oct. 1, 1953	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
Total	24	11	17

From the above breakdown the final sampling was chosen at random by taking eighteen questionnaires from the state, nine from the private agencies and twelve from the private families, giving due consideration to the year of acceptance.

Plan of Presentation

Chapter II deals with the history of the Sweetser-Children's Home. Chapter III contains abstracts of the cases

studied with treatment received, and Chapter IV contains the summary of questionnaires and conclusions arising from the studies.

CHAPTER II

The Children's Home of Portland, oldest child caring institution in Maine, incorporated 1828, the Sweetser Home in Saco, incorporated 1913 and the Children's Aid Society of Maine, incorporated 1905, are uniting their efforts to serve boys and girls. In 1948 Sweetser-Children's Home was incorporated.¹ Funds and policies are administered by the Boards of Managers of the Children's Home of Portland, Sweetser and Children's Aid Society through a Joint Operating Committee. Community Chest support is received by the Children's Home of Portland for the children coming from the Portland Community Chest area.²

Sweetser is located one mile from the center of Saco. Children attend local schools and churches, and participate in their extra-curricular activities. They also have the freedom of the Home's two hundred acres of fields and woods.

The Home consists of a main administration building, with dormitories accommodating sixteen children. Two cottages, embodying the most progressive ideas in institutional building, are the first of their kind in New England. Housing twelve children and staff of three each, they bring the group down to as nearly family size as is financially practicable. In each cottage there is a high proportion of single rooms. The single story plan of each cottage allows for maximum efficiency of staff and better supervision of the children.

¹ Hereafter in the study, Sweetser Children's Home will be referred to as Sweetser, or the Home.

² From a circular published by the Board of Directors of Sweetser 1952 p.1.

Services offered by Sweetser are:

- 1) Study and treatment for boys and girls showing emotional disturbances and adjustment difficulties in their own home, boarding home, school or community.
- 2) An observation period, preliminary to permanent placement, for children under an agency's care.
- 3) Boarding care for children who need group living.

Children of normal intelligence who have reached the age of six years and have not exceeded their eighteenth birthday are eligible for admission and are accepted on a state-wide basis irrespective of race, color or creed. Sweetser does not accept legal responsibility for any child. Legal responsibility rests with the parent or guardian.

Sweetser is the first and only private agency in Maine to provide individualized study and treatment of children living in a group, and is the only study treatment home in Maine with a professional staff equipped to give complete psychological, psychiatric, medical, and casework service.

The director is responsible to the Sweetser board of directors for the management and operation of the Home. The assistant director assists the executive director in his duties and responsibilities.

The psychiatric social worker plans for admission, treatment while at Sweetser, discharge and after care of each child accepted. The caseworker confers with the director in all matters of planning and treatment and forms the connecting link between the various members of the staff, the referring agency,

the child's own family, school authorities and group leaders outside the Home, and the child himself. The psychologist tests each child during intake to discover the child's mental abilities and disabilities, his actual achievements in all subjects, and his special interests and aptitudes are noted. The psychiatrist also sees the child before admission for the purpose of diagnosis and recommendation.

The material obtained through casework, psychological testing, psychiatric interview, is discussed at a staff meeting, which includes all the professional staff, to determine acceptance or non-acceptance of each case.

After the child is admitted he is given an opportunity to select his own caseworker. (The child is carried at his own pace by caseworker and cottage parents.) Staff meetings are held every week under the direction of the psychiatrist and include the professional and non-professional staff at the Home. Each set of cottage parents is allowed to discuss before the group any child, in their cottage, they feel has been exhibiting behavior difficulties to a marked degree.

The children, in a certain cottage, that are carried by a caseworker, are discussed once a week with the cottage parents, and oftener if necessary.

Cottage parents also keep a daily record on each child, noting such things as personal cleanliness, attitude toward work, personal habits, cooperation, bedwetting, to mention a few. These charts are unknown to the child and serve as

one index of the child's general adjustment in the cottage and also illustrate graphically whether there has been an increase or decrease of adjustment thereby lessening the possibility of a withdrawn child or a well adjusted child passing unnoticed.

During the summer months a recreational worker provides for outdoor activities. A full time registered nurse is in attendance to carry out the recommendations of the pediatrician and care for the medical needs of the children at Sweetser. A consulting pediatrician gives a thorough physical examination to each child at the time of admission and administers to his needs thereafter. Complete hospital facilities are available to Sweetser.

The recreational program includes outdoor play and sports, indoor sports, motion picture entertainment, and holiday parties. A healthy balance between work and play is maintained. Each child becomes part of the family group according to his capabilities. Household and farm tasks shared with others, help to develop a sense of responsibility. The Home has a work program where a child, whether boy or girl, can earn spending money. This opportunity gives a child a sense of responsibility and enables him to feel that he is doing something for himself. The work program is purely voluntary. The Home is set up to run without necessitating help from the children.

Sweetser has received applications from public and private agencies, doctors, hospitals, the courts, probation

service, the clergy, and individual parents.

In September of 1951 Sweetser became a member of the Child Welfare League of America.

CHAPTER III

STATE

Admitted 2-11-49
 Closed 7-22-49
 Admitted 2- 6-51
 Discharged 3-22-51

Case No. 1

Joan was born October 8, 1935. She was referred by the state for study and observation after "knifing" her father on February 5, 1949. Both her parents were married and divorced prior to this marriage. Joan has a brother, age 10, a half brother, married, one half brother, age 4, and a half sister, age 10 months. Since 1940, when her parents were divorced, she has been shuffled back and forth between mother, father and grandparents, who were in their 80's. Her mother did not properly care for her children after 1939. Her father drank and did not fully support the family. Joan was in the eighth grade when admitted.

Treatment: Joan was seen by the psychiatrist in weekly interviews with the every day problems being handled on a realistic basis by the psychiatric caseworker. In the beginning she resisted therapy; however, as she found her feelings accepted she began to express hostile feelings toward her father and rejection by her family. As therapy progressed she was able to find acceptance of her fears on a reality basis and began to realize that not much help would be forthcoming from her parents.

It was the psychiatrist's impression that Joan had a well developed ego and possessed good judgment. In her Rorschach

there was a suggestion of hysteria. The impression was petit mal epilepsy and/or psychomotor epilepsy. There was evidence of some sex play with girls, fear of men, and confusion about her parents. Her intelligence quotient¹ was given as 101.

Her everyday life at Sweetser was quite threatening to Joan in the beginning. She transferred many fears of her father towards other boys and would stage scenes of hostility tending toward hysteria. As time went on she gained more control of herself and was able to have better relationships with the boys. There were no serious difficulties with the staff. On July 22, 1949 she was discharged to relatives, but was readmitted on February 6, 1951 after an attempted suicide. The psychiatrist did not feel that Joan had regressed, as she had been experiencing much of the same type of tension in this relative's home as she had in her own. She was then prepared by the caseworker for foster home placement under state supervision and discharged on March 22, 1951.

Questionnaire: Joan is now living by herself near her foster home. She is in close touch with her foster parents and frequently has her meals there. Her personal habits and manners are good. She has made fair relationships with children and her relatives, but with adults outside her family circle her relationships have been better. She graduated from high school and is now employed steadily as a salesgirl. In the opinion

1 Hereafter will be abbreviated I.Q.

of the state, Joan was helped at the Home and whenever she had a problem she could not cope with, she was willing and anxious to ask for help. The state discharged her on October 8, 1953, when she reached her eighteenth birthday.

A questionnaire was also received from the State Mental Hygiene Clinic which saw Joan several times in 1953. During this time Joan was engaged and considering marriage. She was also having concern because of the foster parents wishing to adopt her. As it turned out Joan broke off with her boy friend for a period of time, and moved away from the foster parents when she was discharged from the state. It was pointed out that the foster mother was too smothering and over-demanding of Joan and was controlling her, through illness, as a technique for tying Joan into the foster home for the purpose of adoption and financing her way through college.

Case No. 2

Admitted 3-18-49
Closed 8-3-49

William was born January 16, 1942. He was referred by the state, as he was unable to adjust in foster home placement. He was the next to the youngest of 5 children ranging in age from 4 years to 16 years. In 1948 he was committed to the state because of neglect. His mother and father quarreled, and did not properly feed or care for their children. His mother was 41, of low intelligence, mentally sick, according to reliable sources. His father was 60, did not work, had a heart condition and did a great deal of drinking.

Since 1948 William had been in four foster homes. He was described as being cruel to children and animals, fearful of the dark and strange places. He presented a picture of insecurity and need for affection. He was reported to be a slow child, who did not grasp things easily.

Treatment: The psychiatrist felt that William was not a very sick boy and that he needed only consistent handling which was apparently lacking in several foster homes. The child was a year retarded mentally, with the result that he had not entered school as yet. His I.Q. was 88. He was entered in the sub-primary at school and received some special tutoring at the Home. Casework here was on the basis of relationship, and along with cottage parents served to fulfill the child's craving for affection to quite an extent. At first he used foul language to women on the staff, but was more respectful of men. This evened off and by the end of summer and after preparation by caseworker, he was placed in a foster home on August 3, 1949.

Questionnaire: William, at present, is still under state supervision and living in a foster home. The state felt that he was getting along well. When he was first placed he would not mind the foster mother, lied, and was very rough with the younger children in the home. His relationship with adults and foster brother and sisters was considered good. They

now see William as conforming to the demands of the foster home and school. There were no anti-social activities, and outside of school he had no special community interests. William is now in the fifth grade and seems to be getting along satisfactorily. There were no important health changes. They felt that William was very upset when he went to Sweetser and that he has adjusted much better since his return.

Case No. 3

Admitted 6-15-49
Closed 10-16-49

Alice was born December 12, 1934, the younger of two girls. She was committed to the state in 1946. Her parents were married and divorced three times to each other - 1937, 1942, 1944. During these periods Alice and sister lived with their paternal grandparents who were quite old and who gave them hardly any supervision. From 1946-1949 Alice was placed in several foster homes, but was unable to adjust. She ran away several times, hung around the streets and was involved with her sister in shoplifting. In 1947 her sister was placed in State School for Girls because of her anti-social activities. Alice continued on in foster home placement, but had a difficult time getting along with other children.

Because of her poor foster home adjustment, she was referred to the Maine State Mental Hygiene Clinic for evaluation. They found her to be a very high strung, nervous child. She was menstruating twice a month and appeared to have had several hysterical episodes. She was always complaining about

pains or physical illness. Her progress in school was slow and she had repeated several grades. Her I.Q. was 92 and she was in the seventh grade.

Treatment: Alice was seen weekly by the psychiatrist, on an intensive basis. The impression was that her stealing was due to maternal rejection and a great need for acceptance. She seemed unable to face reality. In several foster homes she had set a few fires and was very upset over this. As therapy progressed Alice was able to make a good relationship with the psychiatrist. Her anxiety over setting fires decreased and her nervousness left her. Everyday problems were taken up in case-work interviews. Her anxiety state was further understood by Alice emotionally. Following this came the acceptance of foster home placement which she had much feeling about.

Questionnaire: The state reported that Alice had been discharged from their supervision on December 12, 1952. She had attempted to set a fire in a foster home on October 24, 1949, but the foster mother was able to comfort her. About December 9, 1949 she set fire to her own clothes. On December 30, 1949 Alice went to live with relatives when foster mother had nervous breakdown. Her adjustment there was very poor and on October 3, 1950 she was sent to the State School for Girls.

She had gone to the eighth grade, receiving fair to poor grades. In the opinion of the state, it was felt that if

another teen age girl had not been boarding in the foster home, tensions in Alice may not have reached such a height.

Case No. 4

Accepted 11-23-49
 Closed 9-4-50
 Accepted 1-9-51
 Closed 6-13-52

Edna was born May 21, 1934, second from the youngest of four children. Edna's father died on March 14, 1939. Both he and paternal grandfather had committed suicide. Edna's mother was an emotionally unstable person who had tried to take care of her children, but had moved from one boarding home to another in such a haphazard manner that the situation came to the attention of the state in 1947 and all the children were committed.

Since then Edna has been in three boarding homes, and was unable to make a good adjustment. A great deal of her difficulty seemed to be her conflict about her relationship with her mother and maternal grandfather. Their own relationship was poor and each had attempted to win Edna over against the other.

Edna was depressed and melancholy at times, destructive of her own clothing and belongings. She threatened suicide and believed no one cared for her. She had run away from foster homes several times. She was further described as untidy, destructive and noisy.

Treatment: In her first few interviews with the psychiatrist

Edna was able to relate her feelings toward her mother and how her mother preferred the boys in the family to the girls. She expressed ambivalent attitudes toward her family. It was evident that she was fearful of men and had had no sex instruction and had run away from reality situations. It was also evident that she had had no adequate father figure and many of her fears were displaced toward other people and situations which were threatening to her. By September 21, 1950 it was felt that Edna had gained enough insight into her problems so that she could transfer her trust to other adult figures. Though foster home placement was recommended she was placed in an institution. On January 9, 1951 she was readmitted to the Home, unable to adjust in the institution and foster home placement which followed, exhibiting some of her earlier symptoms. Psychiatrist felt child appeared more mature and that her behavior stemmed from not being placed in a foster home when she had left the Home. He felt that Edna could use more supportive casework, about her future in regard to her own family.

From this point until June 13, 1952 Edna had casework on a regular basis. She seemed to accept more fully that she could not expect any help from her mother, who had remarried and was living in another state. She accepted her mother's weakness more so than previously and was also able to think through her problems of living with her grandfather. Her temper tantrums were now under control. Her relationship to

adults improved, as her trusting them increased, and her relationship to boys was not threatening to her. During end of her stay she was entering her senior year in high school and had expressed an interest in becoming a practical nurse. She was quite active in the activities both at the Home and at high school, when discharged in 1952.

Questionnaire: Edna was discharged from the state in 1952. Since that time she has been attending a school of nursing in Massachusetts. Her marks were good and she was interested in her work. Her relationship with her brothers and sisters and adults was good.

Based on a contact with Edna in 1953, the state felt that she had made a miraculous adjustment to life in general. They report she was helped at the Home and the patience and acceptance of her behavior she received, was very rewarding in her development.

The Home has had official notice that Edna graduated as a practical nurse in February of 1954.

Case No. 5

Admitted 12-31-49
Closed 12- 2-50

Donald was born April 28, 1941, the oldest of three living children. David and two brothers were referred to the Home following the death of their father. Donald had witnessed the shooting of his father by his mother. Prior to this there had been considerable quarreling between parents. His mother was sent to prison.

Treatment: Donald was seen by the psychiatrist who felt that Donald was not too disturbed and could go into a foster home in due time.

Casework with this child was intermittent and centered around problems in school, fears of new situations and new persons. He was able to talk about his mother shooting his father and found acceptance and understanding with the caseworker and the cottage parents. No serious or intensive casework was done with the child but, rather, the emphasis was in consistent and understanding handling of the child himself, of his activities and of his relationship to both children and adults, both at the home and in the community. During the end of his stay, Donald, along with his two brothers, was prepared, to enter foster home placement.

Questionnaire: Donald has been in his own home since August of 1952. His adjustment has been good and his relationship with people in addition to his personal habits and manners, was good. He has been active in sports and scouts. Donald is now in the sixth grade and has not been experiencing any difficulty in school.

The state felt that Donald presented a picture of a fairly well adjusted child, who was helped, and that his group placement at Sweetser following family crisis was beneficial.

Case No. 6

Accepted 7-16-50
Closed 10-10-53

Joseph is an illegitimate child who was born February 5, 1942. He was referred by the state through the State Mental Hygiene Clinic. Joseph presented a definite conduct disorder based upon early rejection by his mother. He was aggressive, distractible and resentful. His feelings of insecurity showed up in poor behavior and he did not identify easily with people.

Joseph's mother is described as an emotional and unstable person. She married in 1943 and again in 1944. In both instances Joseph was rejected, in the latter by the mother-in-law who was a domineering woman. His mother was torn between Joseph and present husband. From 1944-1947 Joseph had six foster home placements where he adjusted poorly. From 1947-1950 Joseph was with his mother and present husband. He was admitted to Sweetser on July 16, 1950. His full I.Q. was 93 and he was entering the second grade.

Treatment: Casework was on irregular basis at first. Joseph's mother carried on an irregular correspondence and made him many promises that she did not fulfill. He continued to show the same symptoms. He was distractible, resentful, aggressive, destructive, used vulgar language, withdrew from affection, and was continually fighting. From July 1950 - January 1952 no actual casework was done. In January 1952 when the first of two male caseworkers began with Joseph, it was very difficult for him to relate. However, through all his resistance and fear, Joseph obtained some idea of his relationship to mother. With his second worker, he became more verbal. Clarification was carried

on a pretty realistic basis. Relationship, along with play therapy, seemed to settle him down somewhat. However, it was difficult for him to carry it over to the cottage life where he continually got into fights and was destructive. On June 4, 1952 he was again seen by psychiatrist who felt that Joseph's main interest appeared to be proving himself through muscular and fighting prowess. Joseph was always testing adults to see if they really cared for him. During the fall of 1953 Joseph was not able to continue in public school because of his behavior and he received special tutoring at the Home until October when he left to go into a foster home. A foster home with a strong father figure, with Joseph being the only child, was recommended.

It was felt that Joseph was not helped too much in his stay. The child was pretty well damaged by his early rejection and having no continuing male figure at the Home, seemed only to increase his behavior difficulties.

Questionnaire: Joseph is now residing in a foster home. The state reports that he was very upset at the beginning of placement but there had been a little improvement. However, the placement is still in jeopardy. His relationship with his natural mother is poor and with the foster family it swings from good to poor. He is in the fourth grade and his marks have been fair. The state felt that Joseph was helped at Sweetser and that he realizes he has problems and has a responsi-

bility in the foster home situation. However, natural mother is incapable of having a helpful and realistic relationship with Joseph and this distrust is being transferred to other children and adults.

Case No. 7

Accepted 9-16-50
Closed 12-16-50

Beth is an illegitimate child who was born on September 24, 1936. Beth had been in one foster home since 1938 and had two foster home placements before then. After Beth's last placement her mother disappeared and her present whereabouts is unknown.

She was referred because she was having hysterical episodes (fainting spells) which were either preceded or followed by irritable disposition. She bedwettered occasionally and was fearful that she had no mother. Prior to her admittance she was seen by State Mental Hygiene Clinic who stated that her I.Q. was 80 and she was limited verbally. The clinic did not feel this was a true picture of her intelligence as she was blocked emotionally.

Treatment: When first admitted she was put on dilantin drug, but was taken off after one month. When she had seizures of hysteria manifested by fainting spells, the staff would leave her alone and then the psychiatrist would help her to understand why she had used this as a means of getting attention. In the several months she was at the home Beth gained enough insight into her problem to be referred to the same foster home.

When Beth was ready to leave, the foster parents came and saw the psychiatrist. While here Beth did not attend school. Her relationship with the staff and children was good and she entered into activities of all types.

Questionnaire: Beth is now residing in the same foster home. In general her relationship to people in the foster home and community is good. She is a senior in high school with good grades and is active in school affairs. Her general health has been good. As to whether Beth was helped at the Home was not clear to the state as Beth stayed only a short period of time and they did not know whether Beth's steady improvement was due to help she received at the Home.

Case No. 8

Accepted 12-15-50
Closed 2-11-52

Milton was born June 6, 1935, the younger of two illegitimate children. Mother deserted children when they were young. She was described as emotional, immature and possessing meager mental ability. Milton's putative father was the step-father of Milton's mother. He was described as a lazy, jealous, irresponsible person with a violent temper. Milton had a long history of foster home placements, numbering ten when admitted to the Home. He had several fire episodes, but there did not seem to be any indication that he was a firebug. He was essentially referred because of his inability to adjust in foster homes and because of his emotional blocking. He was retarded in school and had difficulty in reading. He had periods where

he ripped his clothes, cried often and seemed a little withdrawn. He was described as a shy, usually good natured person, slow in answering and easily led. His I.Q. was given as 82.

Treatment: Milton did not attend public school while at Sweetser. He worked on the farm and was tutored by remedial reading teacher. There was no casework in the beginning. However, after several months he began seeing both psychiatrist and caseworker. He resisted any type of help given him. He felt that people didn't like him, that they thought he was stupid. He didn't allow himself to trust others. The psychiatrist felt that the child had never been to a foster home where he could make a good adjustment with people and it was doubtful that he would make any type of adjustment at Sweetser.

Milton's behavior at the Home was quite overt. He had childish tantrums of lying on the floor and screaming, daring someone to hit him so that he could run away. He was jealous of other boys. He resisted tutoring and his distrust of adults was carried over into many situations and relationships.

It was felt by the Home, in the beginning of 1952, that the boy was too damaged to be helped. Though Milton did get the feeling that people were interested in him, he couldn't make use of it. Illegitimacy was a problem to Milton and though he had suspected it, he did not know the facts. These were talked over in the casework setting with him. Throughout his stay he continued to have flares of temper.

Questionnaire: Milton is now living by himself. He was

discharged from the United States Marine Corps during September of 1953. He had entered on June 18, 1952 and his discharge was "under Honorable conditions, undesirable." Illiteracy was considered one of the reasons. He had not attended school after February of 1952.

After returning from the service, he was referred to a family agency by relatives, for help. The agency reports that there had been a question of his stealing and destroying property. The agency felt that Milton was still functioning at a level below his potentialities. He seemed to take refuge in wandering about the countryside when his adjustment failed in the community and was subject to severe headaches.

It was their opinion that Milton was helped at the Home, in that, he has made considerable progress toward understanding himself. He is still inquisitive and searching, and the feeling was that more progress could be made.

Case No. 9

Accepted 9-22-50
Closed 5-21-51

Gilbert is an illegitimate who was born on November 21, 1944. His mother was sent to the State Hospital in Maine when Gilbert was two years old. Her present whereabouts is unknown. From 1946-1950 Gilbert was in a foster home which had, at times, from 10 to 20 children. In early 1950 Gilbert was placed in a second foster home under the supervision of the state.

He was removed from this second foster home by the state when he began talking back to foster parents and neighbors, trampling on other people's property, using foul language,

pestering cats and dogs, and having temper tantrums.

Treatment: When seen by the psychiatrist on November 22, 1950 it was felt that child was not too seriously disturbed. Basically he had never had too much consistent handling and much of his behavior was a carry-over from first foster home. Psychiatrist did not recommend any serious casework except for every day problems and relationships. It was felt that child would benefit most from individual attention by cottage parents.

He was not able to complete an intelligence examination when he first came, but was able to in May of 1951. He attained a score of 92. The psychologist noted an amazing change in his attitude, with the child being much surer of himself.

Child was entered in the sub-primary class in public school. He was given consistent and individual attention by cottage parents. He was read to, played with, and not overly criticized. His temper tantrums decreased along with his foul language. His positive relationship with cottage parents was carried over to other adults.

Questionnaire: Gilbert is now living in a foster home. His adjustment at the foster home has been characterized by good and fair behavior. He had a little difficulty stealing small things, but this has diminished. His relationship with adults is good, but with children only fair. He seems to push other children around so that he can be the center of attraction. In school he is in the third grade and receives good marks. His conduct and effort were fair.

There was some difficulty with eyes, and testicles have not dropped. Gilbert is still in contact with a former cottage parent at the Home.

The state felt that Gilbert was helped at the Home and that he had established a fairly good relationship with his foster parents and seemed to be happy in his present foster home.

Case No. 10

Accepted 6-16-50
Closed 9-17-50

Nancy was born December 9, 1931, the youngest of four children. Since 1933 she has been under state supervision. Her mother is in the State Hospital with a diagnosis of schizophrenia, paranoid type. Father was 67 years old when Nancy was born. Up to 1948 Nancy had one foster home placement. The foster mother was described as an intelligent, well educated woman, but with a cold, prim personality. She was preoccupied with the mental state of Nancy, always looking for symptoms. Nancy, all this time, was laboring under the obsession that she was, or would be, mentally sick as her mother. At times she was unable to concentrate and seemed bewildered and fearful. When moved to a new foster home in 1949 her temper tantrums increased and she became slightly antagonistic toward adults. Before admittance to Home she saw her mother at the State Hospital.

Treatment: When admitted, she was found to have an I.Q. of 117. She had graduated to high school and the state had

referred her. Because of the pressure of work, the state had been unable to follow through on therapy.

The psychiatrist felt that Nancy presented an adolescent maladjustment picture. Predisposing factors were felt to be broken family, being frightened of foster parents, and being told that she was like her "crazy" mother. Immediate causes were felt to be the death of foster mother and placement in another foster home where new mother was quite anxious.

Nancy received a combination of interviews with psychiatrist and caseworker. The psychiatrist handled feelings of inheriting insanity and the caseworker handled Nancy's feelings of insecurity and anxiety towards other persons and situations. Nancy was, at times, very unsure of herself and did not have much faith in doing things or thinking them out. Much support was given in these areas by both the psychiatrist and caseworker. Though her relationships, to both children and adults, were not too good she appeared a little more in control of herself and did not let situations upset her. When dismissed from the Home she went to Nason College in Springvale, Maine. A supportive relationship was continued by caseworker who saw Nancy on the basis of four times a month. This supportive type of relationship helped Nancy as she was threatened by minor situations and without the caseworker, had no one to fall back on.

Questionnaire: Nancy's present whereabouts is unknown. She was discharged from the supervision of the state on March 11,

1952. They report that she had completed her second year of college, but had not continued. When last known she was employed. They felt she was helped at the Home, as Nancy gained an understanding of her problems.

Case No. 11

Accepted 1-20-51
Closed 2-23-52

Eunice was born February 6, 1936, the younger of two children. Eunice was referred by the County Probation Officer, as her mother had deserted her in 1950, and her father had tried to make placements in foster homes with the help of the City Department, but these plans had not worked out successfully. Eunice had many complaints about the foster homes and the foster parents could not seem to get along with her. There were indications of frequent quarreling, separations, plans for divorce, and jealousy on the part of both her parents.

Very little information was available on specific behavior problems, as father was vague and the child was not under state custody until May 11, 1951. About all that could be said was that she was difficult to supervise.

Treatment: Psychiatrist felt that Eunice was a child who did not have too serious behavior problems and it appeared to him that it would not be too long before she was ready for foster home placement. The main problems, he felt, were her feelings about her mother and the apparent unfair treatment she had received in former foster homes.

Her I.Q. was 91 and she was in the seventh grade. She had

done very poorly in her school work and during the summer received special tutoring in order that a trial placement in the eighth grade could be made in the fall.

Through casework she was able to relate her feelings about her parents, and her feelings of being rejected by mother, especially. She was quite upset about her father's drinking, but came to realize that nothing would change him very quickly. She was able to recognize that she would always love her mother, but could not expect much, if anything, from her. She felt a little different toward her father and wanted to keep in touch with him. On the whole she was able to face her difficulties realistically and looked forward to planning to enter high school.

Her relationship with the staff was good. She had an even disposition and got along well with the children in the cottage. She managed a club and was a leader in many other activities, such as dancing, parties, and games.

Questionnaire: Eunice is now residing in a foster home. Her adjustment has been good. She has a good relationship with adults and children and has been active in church affairs and in Civil Air Patrol.

She is in the tenth grade and her marks are good. She was described as a good student.

The state felt that she was definitely helped and that she had learned acceptance and understanding of her father, in particular. She was recommitted to the state until the age

of twenty-one to finish high school.

Case No. 12

Accepted 5-14-51
Closed 6-25-52

Grace was born January 3, 1935, the oldest of four children. She was committed to the state at the age of five along with her two sisters and brother. Her mother died in 1939 and her father, who drank heavily, was said to be a poor provider. She was referred to the Mental Hygiene Clinic prior to her admittance to the Home, because of her inability to adjust in foster home placement. She was having hysterical tantrums, was cruel to younger children, saucy, fresh, and impudent. She could not seem to make friends her age, was afraid of groups, and did not like to talk with people. She was confused about her sister who was in the State School for Feeble-minded.

Treatment: During most of her stay at the Home, Grace was seen by psychiatrist and caseworker. At times therapy was intermittent, mainly due to Grace's resistance to help. She got very angry at times during her interviews, especially towards interpretation by the psychiatrist. In the beginning the focus was on the oedipal conflict Grace presented. As she was able to form a better relationship with therapist and caseworker, her resistance to therapy diminished somewhat. In addition, she took part in group therapy sessions held by psychiatrist and participated well. Her anxiety and feelings about her parents and sister, who was in State School for Feeble-minded, were gone over and served to clarify much confusion on Grace's part.

This was quite intensive and Grace was able to verbalize her feelings and release hostility directly and have it accepted.

Grace's behavior at the Home was never too good. She caused considerable difficulty trying to start uprisings against the staff. She was noisy, had many temper tantrums, and her relationship to children and adults was poor. She identified with the underdog and felt that she had to protect him.

Towards the end of her stay her temper tantrums tapered off and she was able to get along better with adults. She repeated her sophomore year and was promoted. She was able to make friends with the children and generally seemed to have gained more control of herself.

Questionnaire: Grace has continued in foster home placement. Although her adjustment has been good she has only a fair relationship with adults and children, including her own brother and sisters. She has a poor relationship with relatives. In general she has been able to get along well with women but not with men.

In the social area she has improved greatly and is able to take a more constructive part in the activities of the community. At present she is a senior in high school. Her grades are fair and she seems to have a favorable attitude toward school, as long as the work does not get too difficult.

The state felt that she was helped and that she had gained acceptance of her father and that she was able to express

herself more easily.

Case No. 13

Accepted 7-15-51
Closed 10- 1-53

Doris was born March 28, 1940. She was neglected by her parents and committed to the state in 1945. From 1945 until she was accepted in the Home, she had been in six foster homes and except for one, had some unsatisfactory experiences in them.

When referred by the state, Doris masturbated, stole, was confused about parents, headstrong, and had difficulty getting along with other children and adults. When first placed in foster homes her father, who was in the service, showed some interest, but this did not last. Her mother had deserted Doris at an early age and her present whereabouts was unknown.

Treatment: Casework at first centered around her resentment about being at Home, her feelings about the various foster homes she had been in, and questions about her own family. She would frequently grow angry, burst into tears and claim everyone else was to blame for what happened. Casework was used by child only a little, but got to a point where Doris was more content to stay at the Home until she was ready for placement.

In the cottage Doris was, at first, a troublemaker, finding fault with everyone. Much casework was centered around her flareups with the staff and cottage parents. In time she showed improvement in this, but there was still resistance. At times she was quite demanding and this fell in with her desire to be a leader in a group. She took part in all activities at the

Home as well as the school. Her marks in school were good and she was going into the eighth grade when she left on October 5, 1953.

At the end of her stay it appeared that Doris still felt somewhat unwanted and unloved. She still found it difficult to accept restrictions or any situations threatening to her. Foster home placement was recommended where Doris would be only child, or one of two, and where she could receive consistent supervision with individual attention.

Questionnaire: Doris is now residing in a foster home. In general her adjustment has been good. Her relationship with people in the foster home and community is good. She is now in the eighth grade and is receiving good marks.

State related that Doris feels the Home helped her considerably because she could go see her caseworker and talk over her problems.

Her temper tantrums were less frequent and she was improving all the time.

Case No. 14

Accepted 8-13-51
Closed 2-27-53

Julia was born October 19, 1936, the younger of two girls. She was placed under state supervision in 1944 because of neglect of parents. From 1944-1950 she was in an institution for girls and in 1950 had her first foster home placement. On the whole her behavior was good. Though she was extremely interested in boys, she did well in school, joined the 4-H Club,

took piano lessons and sang in the choir. She became extremely upset and confused when her mother, in attempting to get her back, had Julia relate before authorities that she had relations at the foster home with one of the boys. Julia was placed in a very difficult situation and seemed to lose control of herself. Though mother did not succeed, the state felt that she would have to be taken away from the community to a new setting. She was referred to Sweetser for help with her sexual problems and her confused relationship with her mother.

Treatment: Psychiatrist's impression was that Julia was excessively guilty and had definite anxiety symptoms. As a neglected and rejected child she had a need to be accepted. Her excessive sexual concern in her foster family placement and possible actual sexual experience with men had been traumatic to her. Recommendation was that as child showed a weak ego, therapy should be slow and over a long period of time. Her I.Q. was 116.

Her relationship to caseworker, at first, was quite withdrawn. In time she was able to talk out ambivalent feelings toward her mother, also was able to discuss sexual feelings about cottage father, with whom she was infatuated, and gain some understanding and control of her behavior towards him, in the casework relationship. She made her own contact with a relative of hers, where it was possible for her to move. She was prepared for placement. Relationship with staff and children improved from a rather guilty state, whereas she was

irritating to staff and children.

Questionnaire: Julia is now residing in a foster home. Her adjustment has been good, and she does not seem too disturbed by her mother's letters. Her relationship with people is good and she is particularly fond of a brother in the service.

She is in the eleventh grade and is receiving average grades. Recently she has undergone treatment for an anemic condition. The state felt that Julia was helped at the Home. They relate that Julia seems to understand her mother and does not let her mother's wishes to have her at home, upset her. She feels her mother may be of some help when she is "off the state."

Case No. 15

Accepted 8-30-51
Closed 6-8-52

Byron is an illegitimate child who was born August 23, 1942. In 1945 he was placed in a private foster home by mother. When she did not pay, the state entered the situation and attempted to locate her. When this failed Byron was committed. Prior to 1945 he had been in two foster homes and mother had left him once before. Nothing was known of putative father.

Byron was referred by the state from this last foster home because he was overactive, destructive of property, stole, and was cruel to animals. He had a sullen appearance, tormented other children, never smiled, and refused to mind.

Treatment: Psychiatrist's impression was that Byron showed a

behavior problem manifested by lying, stealing, and aggressive, overactive behavior. Predisposing factors were felt to be that he was an unwanted child who was placed in a foster home with a psychoneurotic foster mother. The psychiatrist felt that the ego development was poor.

The focus of casework was to increase the child's feeling of security. He was seen regularly from August 1951 to May 1952. At first he was completely withdrawn and did not verbalize very easily. He resisted casework relationship but in time found expression in having his feelings accepted about his mother, foster mother, and why he was at the Home. He was helped to have these clarified to a point where he was able to play better with other children and take more constructive interests in activities. Feelings of his own family were also discussed and child's natural mother and stepfather came from Rhode Island to visit. At the end of his stay Byron was prepared by caseworker to go to live with his mother and stepfather.

Treatment: Byron is now living in his own home. The state felt that Byron was helped at the Home and that he had established a better relationship with his mother.

At present he is living with his mother and stepfather in Rhode Island. The Department of Child Welfare has been supervising him there and the state reports that Byron has adjusted well, both at home and in school.

Case No. 16

Accepted 8-31-51
Closed 10-30-52

Paul was born October 30, 1943. Since birth he was in a series of foster homes. In February 1951, because of neglect, he was removed from a foster home and following this, custody was taken by state. They were unable to make future plans for Paul because of his behavior problems.

He was extremely nervous, overactive, and subject to severe nightmares. He stole, set fires twice and bedwet occasionally.

Treatment: Psychiatrist felt that Paul was a severe behavior problem. He was rejected by both natural and foster mother. He was unable to accept adults, nor trust them. He had a continual feeling of rebellion. He did not feel child should have any intensive casework and that most therapy would have to be done on the houseparent level.

Throughout his stay Paul found it very difficult. He could not make a close attachment to any adult although he showed great need for affection and approval. He bedwet and got into frequent fights. He did not verbalize much and therefore all casework was on play therapy basis.

Though his behavior problem decreased somewhat it was felt that child would do better being in a home where he was a member of the family. This decision was based on Paul's being overstimulated and tired by group living and that he needed a feeling of belonging somewhere.

Questionnaire: Paul is now residing in a foster home. His adjustment in the home has been fair. Relationship with adults

and children has been average. The state felt it was difficult for Paul to accept affection from adults but he liked attention from them and showed affection for animals and small children.

Community activities have been few as he is living in a rural area, but Paul hoped to join Boy Scouts soon.

He is in the fourth grade and receives a combination of fair and poor marks. He didn't like school as it was difficult for him to remain still for any length of time. He continues to have a great deal of inner tension and anxiety.

They felt Paul was helped at Sweetser and that he had improved somewhat the past year. The feeling was that if he could continue in this present placement, he would make more progress.

Case No. 17

Accepted 8-4-52
Closed 6-13-53

Rachel was born September 5, 1938, the younger of two children. Her parents maintained a home until 1942 when her mother left her father because of his constant drinking. Mother and children moved about next few years living with relatives. Mother deserted Rachel in 1946 and was married again in 1948. From that time Rachel was shuffled amongst several relatives and also mother and stepfather. Finally the state stepped in and in 1949 Rachel was committed. After several unsuccessful foster home placements she was referred to Sweetser. She had completed the seventh grade.

She was described as defiant and saucy. She ran away

on a couple of occasions, stayed out late at night, played up to older boys. There were episodes of lying and petty stealing.

Treatment: Psychiatrist felt that Rachel was not too severe a behavior problem. She seemed fairly well adjusted for a girl who had faced so much rejection. He felt that she was rebelling constantly and that she was in need of a permanent type of foster home following her stay at Sweetser. He felt that if she continued to be "battered" around from home to home this way, she would develop more severe emotional behavior problems.

Rachel was able to make a fairly good relationship with caseworker. She was seen weekly and although work was not of intensive nature she was able to express herself and find acceptance for her confused, hostile feeling against people in general and parents especially. Much casework centered around difficulties with mother and stepfather and Rachel was able to recognize differences in adults. She seemed to accept more the adult figure and transferred it well to the staff and children. There was no episode of stealing and only one runaway. When she was ready to leave she was prepared by caseworker for foster home placement. Her marks in school were good and she had an I.Q. of 101. She was promoted to ninth grade.

Questionnaire: Rachel is now residing in a foster home. Her adjustment has been good. She has a good relationship with adults and children. She is in the first year of high school and receives fair marks. She has a good interest in her studies and school activities.

The state felt that she was helped and that the neutral setting and psychiatric help in the Home enabled Rachel to accept and adjust to continued rejection by relatives and to relate better to relatives and foster parents.

Case No. 18

Accepted 6-11-51
Closed 11-20-51

Luther was born April 16, 1942. One of three children, he, along with his two sisters, was badly beaten by mother who was sentenced to a month in jail on March 14, 1951. One sister was so badly beaten that she was taken to a hospital. Father had divorced mother after she had once deserted the children in 1945. He seemed interested, but did not offer any constructive plan for the children's future. When Luther was placed in one foster home pending committal to state, foster mother found him involved in sex play with a little girl. This caused another foster home placement, but when second foster mother learned of his sex play she would not keep him. The state asked that Luther be studied at Sweetser, in order that they could be better able to place him in a foster home. He was committed to the state on June 9, 1951.

Treatment: Psychiatrist felt Luther had feelings of inferiority and that he was confused by his changes of placement. It was not felt that he was seriously disturbed. When tested Luther had an intelligence quotient of 98 and was entering grade 4.

Luther received casework on an intermittent basis and it centered around his sex play which had been an accepted

type of behavior in his own home. Through clarification Luther was able to realize his role in regard to sex and also in relationship to other children and adults. No serious sex problem arose with Luther. He received much individual attention from cottage parents. He was able to make a good relationship with the staff and children and at the end of his stay was prepared by caseworker for foster home placement.

Questionnaire: Luther is now living in a foster home. His adjustment has been poor. He has a bedwetting problem which is upsetting to the foster mother. His relationship with children is good and with adults, fair. Foster mother felt that he was not accepted too well in the community.

He is in the sixth grade. His marks are fair, but is described as not attentive in school.

The state is considering a new foster home for him as he is not adjusting too well in his present foster home. They did not feel the child was helped as he still seems to be emotionally insecure.

PRIVATE AGENCY

Case No. 1

Accepted 9-22-49
Closed 12-11-50

Ronald was born August 15, 1933, the second child in a family of four. His parents were divorced in 1936. After parents' separation Ronald was placed in three different children's institutions until the age of 13. Father did pay

for their support until his death in 1946. Ronald went into a work home in 1948, but the family was arrested under the Child Labor Law for overworking the boy. From here he went to his grandmother's home and shortly after her death was referred to a private family agency for help because his attacks of asthma quite often seemed to be connected with some emotional upset. He very seldom got them from causes from which he was known to be allergic. He was sensitive to dust but could play baseball with no difficulty. When being corrected for a misdemeanor he would choke up. The agency felt that Ronald could use a period of closer study and treatment at Sweetser.

Treatment: Ronald received medical attention for several months at the beginning of his placement. At the same time he was entered in the eighth grade. Ronald had not attended school since he was thirteen years of age. He received an I.Q. of 109. It was difficult for him to continue in school and on many occasions he would ask to be taken back to the Home because he was not feeling well. As time went on, through casework, he was able to realize that his asthma attacks came on in school and during other situations when they were threatening to him. Other than this, casework was centered about relationship and problems of the day. His relationship with staff and children was good. His main interests were reading and working on radios and athletics. He was seldom openly defiant, having only one or two flareups. At the end of his stay he had completed the eighth grade and was promoted to the ninth grade. When Ronald

left the Home on December 11, 1950 he entered the United States Army.

Questionnaire: Ronald has been living by himself since 1952.

His adjustment has not been good. He had been to court in 1952 and had not returned to school. At present he is working intermittently. The agency felt that, though the boy had not made anything of his life, the Home gave him two years of security. As far as health is concerned he still has his "emotional" asthma.

Case No. 2

Accepted 6-29-50
Closed 6-19-51

Justin was an illegitimate child who was born on December 30, 1938. He was adopted privately at an early age. His natural mother visited the adoptive home as a relative until 1949 when he found out that she was his own mother. In 1949 adoptive mother applied to State Mental Hygiene Clinic for help with Justin. He was having behavior tantrums, was noisy, over-demanding, threatening to leave and go back to mother. Adoptive mother was quite upset, as the natural mother desired boy back and was making the situation unbearable. There was a question of Justin being involved in a stealing episode in the adoptive home and this served to increase adoptive mother's anxiety. Adoptive father had died in 1948.

To facilitate the situation Mental Hygiene Clinic asked that the boy be admitted to Home in order that Clinic be able to better work with adoptive mother. They felt a period of

close supervision and study was needed for Justin.

Treatment: Justin had been seeing a psychiatrist before he came to Home and it was recommended that he be seen by caseworker on an intermittent basis. It was felt that he would be most helped by relationship that was consistent and understanding.

He had some difficulty in school and needed some special tutoring. These everyday problems were taken up in casework. Justin didn't get along too well with the other children and preferred adults, otherwise he would stay by himself. There was no attempt in casework relationship to get at the home situation.

Questionnaire: Justin is living in his own home. Agency reports that his adjustment has been poor in general. He is rude, vulgar, insulting to his adoptive mother and she was considering placement outside of home. Personality of adoptive mother and irregularity of her adult relationships made it difficult for Justin to have a satisfying relationship with her.

He has been active in Y.M.C.A. and church groups. He is a freshman in high school and is taking the vocational course. His grades are good. Up to this year his marks and attitude toward school were only fair and he didn't seem to be interested. However, his attitude improved when he took the vocational course through encouragement by his eighth grade shop instructor.

After he returned home he became underweight and had periods of not eating. Mother has been overdemanding of the boy and has been threatening to send him away again if he does

not behave.

Justin has been seen in casework interviews by agency since leaving the home. Casework has centered around relationship to adoptive mother and everyday problems. Adoptive mother is also receiving individual casework help.

Case No. 3

Accepted 9-5-50
Closed 6-4-52

Eva was born January 27, 1937, next to the youngest of four girls. Her mother and father separated when she was three. Mother was described as definitely neurotic.

Eva was referred by a private study agency. She was 13 years old at the time and was having temper tantrums, bad dreams and difficulty in school. She could not read well, had run away to avoid school, was sensitive, and nervous. There were psychosomatic symptoms with some hearing loss, antagonistic attitude toward mother, teachers and sisters.

Treatment: Eva was very homesick when she first came. Psychiatrist felt mother's anxieties and overprotection were the predisposing factors. Eva attained an I.Q. of 107. In the first month she was seen several times a week. She had a very severe reading problem and lived in a phantasy world. She was given as much support as possible by caseworker and staff. She was able, in time, to talk about her feelings of rejection by her father and mother and her feelings toward her sisters. She was able to work out her feelings toward her father and accept him and mother on the basis that they may never change

and she would have to get along as well as she could by herself. This was helped by her visiting father and mother during her stay at the Home.

She had the intelligence, but because of her emotional upset she became blocked in learning. She did complete eighth grade but had to exert herself to quite an extent. She accomplished more than her teachers considered possible. Toward the end of her stay she was brought into a more realistic view of life in general and she dropped quite a bit of her phantasy world. In the beginning she used illness and pain as a defense, but this diminished in time through clarification. Her personal appearance improved and when she left in June 1952 was recommended for some kind of housework position, preferably not in her own home.

Questionnaire: Eva is now in her own home. The agency reports that she could not go on in school. She has had a number of illnesses and appears to be still using this as a defense. She has gained some maturity and appears to have more control of herself. She is able to make some positive relationships, however, has not been able to keep any job. They felt she was helped, in that, she would have been admitted to State Hospital if she had not received some idea of herself in relation to her problems.

Case No. 4

Accepted 3-22-51
Closed 3-7-52

Marcia was born April 26, 1937, the youngest of three

children. She was referred by State Mental Hygiene Clinic. Marcia was a child who had psychomotor epilepsy and behavior problem manifested by over-dependency upon mother, lying to stir up fights in family. She was generally nervous and rocked back and forth in bed.

In the referral from State Mental Hygiene Clinic it was also stated that the mother let her have her way and the father was a passive person. Mother was emotionally disturbed and was attending group psychotherapy sessions held by the State Mental Hygiene Clinic. Marcia's I.Q. was reported to be 92.

Treatment: After admittance Marcia was put on dilantin drug and kept on with it until she left. She was seen entirely by psychiatrist. Matters of relationship with sister, mother, and family, in general, were discussed. Much confusion was clarified and Marcia was able to better understand people in relation to herself. The drug helped her emotionally. At first, she was irritable and extremely nervous, but this decreased as therapy and the drug were continued. She understood the reason for the drug and why it helped her specifically. She had problems of sex and these were discussed in relationship to persons and situations.

Her behavior at first in the cottage was poor. She rocked often when sitting on a chair or on her bed. Her appearance which was slovenly at first, improved.

Mother, in the meantime, had not improved to any great

extent and though it was not felt that Marcia would benefit by going into her own home, custody had not been taken by anyone else.

She was in the eighth grade when she left and had been doing good work in the laundry.

Questionnaire: Marcia has been living in her own home since she was discharged from Home. In general, her adjustment has been very poor. She is very dependent on her mother and has become pregnant by her brother-in-law. Relationship with people is poor in the home as well as in the community. The last grade she attended was the ninth and is unemployed at present. Her attitude toward school had been antagonistic, non-cooperative and non-receptive.

The agency felt that her attitude was markedly changed for the first few months after leaving the Home, but Marcia soon slipped back to her old behavior. It was their feeling that a more positive approach would have been her placement in foster home rather than returning to her own home where there was so much tension.

Case No. 5

Accepted 2-7-51
Closed 6-25-51

John was born February 10, 1941. He was referred by a private study agency when his mother died at which time John was three years old. There followed a series of placements in foster homes and relatives homes, with fair and poor adjustment. In 1948-1950 he was with natural father and stepmother. How-

ever, they could not do anything for the boy and were upset by his behavior. John was a bedwetter, masturbated, was unresponsive, and he lacked awareness of anything but primitive self-directed needs. His I.Q. was given as 102 and the agency seems to feel that father was sincerely devoted to the boy, but was unable to cope with this behavior. The stepmother was not physically well and John was a drain on her health. John had been in two children's homes before coming to Sweetser.

Treatment: Psychiatrist felt that John did not have too serious a behavior problem in the face of feeling left out with all the placements he had had. No regular intensive casework was done with the boy. It was mostly on the level of relationship, with acceptance and warmth. At first he bedwet every night but this decreased.

While at the Home John adjusted well and got along with children and staff. He was a friendly responsive youngster whom it was felt could use a foster home of a fairly permanent nature. After four months he was prepared by caseworker and recommended for placement.

Questionnaire: John is now living in his own home. His adjustment has been fair. He is clean about his person and has good manners when he is in the mood, but in general his table manners are not too good. He is selfish and wants to have everything he desires regardless of whether there is anything for the others or not. His relationship to adults has been good but with children, poor.

Sometimes he is very nice with his grandmother and at other times he is bullish and snippy. In the morning he upsets his brothers and sisters.

In the community John is pretty active. He attends dances and belongs to the Boys' Club. He also belonged to Scouts until it was disbanded because of lack of leaders. He has a paper route and is well liked by customers.

In school he is in the seventh grade and receiving good marks. He has had satisfactory conduct in music only and is particularly interested in science and nature.

At home he still wets the bed, lies about non-essentials and takes things which do not belong to him, particularly money from his own parents. However, agency felt that John's stay at Sweetser had diminished his "black" moods and helped him appreciate his own home.

Case No. 6

Accepted 1-2-52
Closed 12-27-52

June was born February 21, 1939. She was referred by a private study agency. The problem was that she had been overplaced in a private adoption. In her first five years June suffered from severe traumatic environmental experiences in which her natural mother placed her in six or eight poor boarding homes. When she was adopted at the age of five, she was underweight and malnourished. Since her adoption she has been under constant pressure of being threatened in not measuring up to expectations. Although not a very bright child, she possessed average intelligence. Before being admitted she

had been lying, stealing, bedwetting, having nightmares, and doing poorly in school. She stole minor things and bit her nails. She was in the seventh grade and had always been promoted, except for this last year. Adoptive parents had also adopted a boy who was several years younger than June.

Treatment: Psychiatrist felt that June was a behavior problem, manifested by stealing, lying, bedwetting, nightmares and big appetite. The immediate cause of her problem was adoption by a rigid, possessive mother whose religious attitudes appear to play a large role in the situation. Predisposing factors were broken home, parental rejection by an unreasonable mother and an alcoholic father.

June was seen regularly in casework. She was able to relate her feelings that George, her adopted brother, was preferred over her. She also felt a lot closer to her father than her mother. She was also able to express interest about her natural mother and June was able to realize her early relationship with natural mother. Casework proceeded at a very slow rate and June was making use of it a little at a time.

Her behavior at the Home was only fair. She was aggressive, defiant of houseparents and had temper outbursts. She took part in most activities. She continued to bedwet.

June repeated the seventh grade in the fall of 1952. Her adoptive parents came once a month for casework. On seeing

June on these occasions, adoptive parents felt very guilty in leaving her and in December of 1952, took her home against the wishes of the Home. June also wanted to go home and parents could not refuse her. It was felt that both June and adoptive parents could have used more help.

Questionnaire: June is now residing in a foster home. Her adjustment has been just average. She is moody and careless about her personal belongings. Relationship with relatives is poor, but good with children and fair with brother and adults. There have been no antisocial activities and she has participated in activities of community.

She is in the eighth grade in school and is receiving fair marks. She is somewhat indifferent and doesn't like school in general.

Agency felt that June was an interesting mixture of extreme immaturity with strivings to be more mature than her chronological age. She has many defenses and rationalizations, many of which do not appear to be healthy.

The agency thought she was given some help at the Home but that she was taken away from Home by her parents too early to get the maximum help.

Case No. 7

Accepted 2-15-52
Closed 7- 2-53

Coreen was born October 8, 1940. She was referred by a private study agency. Her parents were separated in 1943. There had been frequent quarreling and separations. Coreen's

father had an extensive court record. Her mother remarried in 1948. Since that time Coreen's mother had little to do with her and her care was left up to grandmother. Coreen's grandmother in Massachusetts referred child to private study agency because she was too much of a problem.

This centered around frequent mood swings, inability to accept supervision or correction, lying, stealing, aggression toward boys and men, bedwetting and masturbating. There was a question of actual sex experience.

In school she was in fifth grade and her I.Q. was 105. The psychiatrist at the private study agency felt that Coreen was definitely a rejected child who had not adjusted to separation of natural father. At the same time she felt rejected by natural mother. Her emotional disturbance was not concealed.

Treatment: When accepted at the Home it was felt by psychiatrist that Coreen was reacting to rejection by being negative about everything. She was not felt to be too serious a behavior problem.

Focus of casework was centered around understanding her own parents. Her feelings about mother were realistic, as her mother was emotionally disturbed and very demanding of Coreen. At the same time she tried to mold Coreen, not allowing her to grow up like other children. It was felt that Coreen was justified in her outlook toward parents, but that she probably would not be able to change them. She accepted this in time

and was able to discuss feelings about going into foster home placement. Along with casework the child was encouraged to enter activities. She got along well with children and staff and there were no severe temper tantrums, and no stealing. She did bedwet but not often and it diminished somewhat. Her identification with worker enabled her to become more sure of herself with respect to authority. She accepted limits and transferred her trust of adult figures to other people.

Questionnaire: Coreen is now residing in a foster home. Her adjustment has been characterized as good. However, foster mother reports Coreen to be overactive and constantly cleaning up her room and straightening her drawers. Her relationship, except for undercurrent of rivalry between Coreen and foster mother's own daughter, has been good with adults and children.

When Coreen left the Home she went to her mother's home. There was friction between them and she ran away for a half day. She also ran away from foster home the second day she was there, but has now settled down. It was reported to agency by foster mother that Coreen seemed very fond of her mother. Agency felt that this was probably the clinging of a rejected child, to a rejecting mother.

Coreen is not active in any groups and has an indifferent attitude towards them. She is in the seventh grade in school and receives fair marks. She likes school fairly well, although there are some teachers she dislikes.

The agency felt that Coreen was helped at the Home and were impressed with her apparent improvement. She seemed much less tense than ever before. At the end of this school year she is to be moved to another foster home at the request of the present foster mother. The reasons were felt to be her own overactivity and rivalry with foster mother's own daughter. However, it was also stated that foster mother did not appear to be too warm a person and the agency was questioning how much acceptance Coreen was receiving.

Case No. 8

Accepted 1-24-52
Closed 6-8-52

Arthur was born October 27, 1939, one of a set of twin boys. Arthur was referred by a Children's Home. One of four children, Arthur, along with his brother was placed at the Children's Home following death of their mother in 1950. She was described as a headstrong person and did not seem able to take on family responsibility with the result that the children received little care and attention, other than what the father was able to give. Before her death she had been admitted to a State Hospital in a confused and depressed state of mind. The children's father was considered loyal and devoted to them. However, he was away in the Service during World War II and he re-enlisted again after the war.

The precipitating factor in Arthur and his brother coming to the Home was around their bad temper and temper tantrums. At one time Arthur smashed furniture and struck staff members. It was also apparent that though the two brothers appeared

close, Arthur was very jealous of his brother who was the keener of the two.

Treatment: Psychiatrist felt that Arthur was a mildly disturbed child, with feelings of inferiority. Predisposing factors were felt to be broken home, irresponsible mother, and over-severity of adults who had given him earlier care. It was recommended that casework be with a male. Arthur attained an I.Q. of 95.

In casework Arthur initially revealed very little of himself. He was very suspicious and showed a definite inability to relate to any adult figure. He seemed to have a great amount of fear and talked about feelings of inferiority in relation to other children. He had feelings toward his hearing loss. As time went on he became more sure of himself through verbalizing his feelings and having them accepted. His excessive anger decreased somewhat. As casework continued he was entered into the sixth grade. Some interpretation was given to his behavior and Arthur was able to accept adults at the Home much better. The transference of trust from the casework situation and the Home seemed to relate itself to the father and stepmother, whom both boys visited on two occasions. At the end of their stay they were prepared to go to live with father and stepmother, but were placed in an institution, apparently by the parents.

In February 1953 both boys visited the Home and, in an interview with caseworker, related that they did not trust

stepmother and questioned if their father knew what was going on. They felt they were betrayed by their stepmother when she placed them in an institution. They did not feel any responsibility to their own home and asked for help. They were referred to a child and family service agency.

Questionnaire: Arthur is now residing in foster home. He has made a fair adjustment in this home. When he left Sweetser he had gone to his own home and was completely unable to adjust. His present foster home is very permissive, but agency reports that he has shown stubbornness and at times has been quite difficult.

In school he is in the eighth grade. His attitude is good and in his schooling this past year he received a report card showing straight A's which the agency felt was above his intellectual level.

He has been having difficulty with his ears in their discharging and is under care of local doctor.

Agency felt that Arthur was helped at Home. The boy showed definite growth toward maturity and self-understanding. This, especially, when both parents were rejecting of him and where he would probably never be able to depend on them for help.

Case No. 9

Accepted 1-21-52
Closed 6-6-53

Ralph was born August 26, 1944. He was referred from a private study agency. He had been pilfering small change

from mother, lying and running away. He was troublesome in school and had abrupt mood changes. He was stubborn, defiant and extremely nervous. He talked a great deal in his sleep, chewed pencils and twisted his clothes.

His I.Q. was within normal limits. Ralph was conceived out of wedlock and when he was seven months old his mother married unsuccessfully. There were two separations, one when Ralph was two years old and one when he was five years old. The stepfather rejected and ignored the child.

Treatment: Psychiatrist felt that Ralph's behavior appeared to be the usual found in child suffering from an emotional behavior problem. However, it was also felt that Ralph presented anxieties which are not usually seen in a child this age; i.e. inability to sleep, tension, lying, extreme nervousness, poor appetite, bizarre behavior patterns. He recommended treatment on a relationship basis. Casework was on an intermittent and play therapy basis. It served to reduce Ralph's tension and nervousness and also to decrease insecurity. From cottage parents he received fair and understanding treatment with a little extra bit of attention. By the eighth month of his stay many of his symptoms decreased and some (lying, stealing, defiance) disappeared.

In the meantime Ralph's mother had remarried. Ralph visited a few times and seemed, when discharged, more accepted by new stepfather who had two children. He left to go to his own home.

Questionnaire: Ralph is still residing with mother and step-father. He is doing well in school and gets along well with other children and adults. He appears to be happy, and natural mother is very appreciative that he hasn't exhibited any of his old problems.

The agency felt the boy was helped and that he is accepting of his present stepfather.

PRIVATE FAMILY

Case No. 1

Accepted 11-15-49
Closed 9-1-50

Anita was born April 28, 1934. Anita's parents were divorced following the desertion of the children by the mother. Anita was first placed away from home at the age of seven with two older sisters. She grew up in a foster home, the natural father never being able to take her home permanently because of too much friction between her and the stepmother. Just before placement at Sweetser, Anita stole some money from a neighbor. Once before this Anita had been involved in a petty theft. Anita's father was described as interested in her, but was not a strong figure for her to depend upon.

In the foster home she was difficult to supervise and her lying upset foster parents.

Treatment: Psychiatrist felt Anita was showing behavior problems manifested by stealing, lying and the ability to upset foster parents. Predisposing factor was broken home, with a resulting feeling of loss of love. Immediate cause

was felt to be father's second marriage and additional loss of love.

Her I.Q. was 107. She was a sophomore in high school. She was seen mostly in casework although she did see psychiatrist now and then. Casework centered around her feeling of rejection by mother and father. She readily talked on how mixed up she was about her parents and how guilty she was about her stealing. Anita was extremely jealous of other children and over-identified with caseworker. She reached a point where she was extremely jealous of other children being seen by caseworker. There were many short interviews on everyday problems between regular appointments. As her identification subsided somewhat through clarification, she was able to trust other adults more through her casework relationship.

Anita had a difficult time in school at the beginning. As time progressed she did better and was promoted to her junior year. She visited her sisters who were married and also her father and stepmother during her stay. She also was able to make friends with the children and keep them.

In September of 1950 she was placed in a foster home and the casework relationship was continued. This helped the foster parents as well as Anita. She did much better in school the following year and entered many activities in school.

Questionnaire: Anita is now attending a junior college and is in her first year. Since she has left the Home her adjust-

ment has continued to be good. Foster parents are financing her way through college. Her relationship to people in the foster home, community and school is reported to be good. She has been very active in school and church activities and also athletics.

She has been employed during the last two summers. The first summer she worked in a bank and the second, worked as sales girl in a summer gift shop.

Case No. 2

Accepted 9-3-50
Closed 6-30-52

Beulah was born October 22, 1934, the youngest of two girls. Her parents separated when Beulah was six years old. Mother took Beulah and lived with another man. In the early forties Beulah's mother died of T.B. Beulah was placed in a sanatorium for T.B. in 1942 to 1943. From then until 1949 she had at least six private foster home placements. In 1949 she was placed by father in a children's home. Her father worked in lumber camps, was not well and was barely able to support himself.

Beulah was referred from a children's home. She seemed quite confused. She wasn't always truthful, had periods when she used illness and feeling faint as an excuse to avoid difficult situations.

Treatment: Psychiatrist felt that Beulah showed an anxiety state with easy fatigue, tenseness, poor appetite, profuse sweating. Her I.Q. was 92.

When Beulah arrived she had it all planned when she got here that she was going to high school and take a college course and, upon graduation, study to become a nurse. After some time in school it was evident that it was too much for her and that she was too threatened by difficulties. Casework was centered around this area and she was able to discuss her father and brother and feelings toward them. Many of the interviews were taken up with difficulties of the day, including her fainting spells and her not being truthful. She was confused about her past history and though she received clarification on this there was some question whether she understood it emotionally. Her behavior with children and staff was good. She was a slow worker. When she left Sweetser she went to live with her relatives.

Questionnaire: Beulah is now living by herself in her own home. She is residing in Massachusetts where she is employed as an attendant in a hospital. She left school after completing the tenth grade.

Case No. 3

Accepted 9-23-50
Closed 3-18-51

Gail was born May 5, 1936. She was referred by the State Hospital on August 18, 1950 where she had been since 1948. They had paroled her several times to her own mother, but she was unable to help Gail, being inadequate and emotionally unstable. At one time was hospitalized herself due to possible psychoneurosis. She had been unsuccessfully married twice.

Gail's father is seventy-two years old and a chronic alcoholic. He had an uncontrollable temper and has been cruel and abusive to Gail and her mother. Gail was severely beaten and disciplined by her father for twelve years. At the same time she was alternately overprotected and severely criticized by her mother.

Gail developed behavior symptoms when she had bad temper tantrums, was indifferent, threw things at her father (when paroled once), had laughing spells, was afraid at night, began to wet the bed and accused mother of destroying her clothes.

She was in the sixth grade and, because she had adjusted in a group situation, she was referred to Sweetser for further help.

Treatment: Psychiatrist felt that Gail presented a picture of schizophrenia in remission, manifested by feelings of unworthiness, felt that people were going to hurt her, inappropriate affect and seclusiveness. Her father's alcoholism and cruel treatment and mother's over-protection did not let Gail experience things that other children were experiencing. Gail began to have a feeling of difference. Her intelligence quotient was given as 130.

Gail received regular casework. She did not make much use of it during the time she was here except to complain about the other children and her unhappiness at the Home. When her mother visited she continually begged her to take her home. At Sweetser she was very withdrawn, fearful, and confused. She

preferred to stay in her room sitting in a chair and rocking. She was slow in dressing, getting to meals, doing her work, and not very careful about personal cleanliness.

Although a few of her habits improved, Gail was very slow in responding. At times when her mother visited they got into arguments which would end with both of them swearing and crying. Towards the end of her stay she entered into more activities with other children and was a little more accepted. However, at this point mother took Gail against advice from the Home. It was felt that unless Gail received special help she would again end up at the State Hospital.

Questionnaire: Gail is now living several days a week with her mother and several days a week at the State Hospital. Mother reports that Gail's adjustment in her own home has been poor and that her relationship with adults and relatives is poor.

She did not complete the eighth grade. Mother did not feel that Gail was helped at the Home. She felt that Gail's mental trouble started in a boarding home at the age of twelve, where Gail had been picked on by older children. She relates that Gail now attends occupational therapy sessions at the State Hospital.

Case No. 4

Accepted 12-12-50
Closed 2-10-52

Jason was born August 7, 1940. He was referred by his mother who first applied to State Mental Hygiene Clinic. Essentially the Clinic began working with the family off and on

from 1948. At that time Jason's problem had to do with lying down in the road in front of on-coming cars, stealing classmates bicycles, inappropriate behavior in school, and bedwetting.

The psychiatrist began seeing Jason in the Clinic before his coming to the Home. His impression was that Jason was an organically driven child, showing marked behavior difficulties, such as stealing, refusal to obey, speech defect, inability to get along with other children. Predisposing factors were felt to be meningitis, which he had at an early age. Immediate cause was irresponsible mother who spent most of her time drinking, paying little attention to her children and who was finally divorced by her husband in 1948.

Jason's I.Q. was 94. On a Rorschach given December 19, 1950 his responses showed possible brain damage. It appeared that Jason's intellectual power had not apparently been seriously impaired, but rational control was so weak as to be ineffective much of the time.

He was seen mostly by psychiatrist in weekly sessions. Many of Jason's problems evolved around sex, bedwetting, and his wanting to be good. Generally speaking the boy could get some insight into his feelings but could not use it. At times his behavior was completely normal and at times he could not control himself. He was dangerous to the children and was constantly in trouble because of his behavior. It was felt that Jason needed more strict custodial care and the Home could not help him. He was dismissed to his mother.

Questionnaire: Jason is now residing at a State Hospital in Illinois. His adjustment has been poor and he has to be watched constantly. Mother reports that he could not be handled by her and that what was basically wrong when he entered the Home was the same when he left. She felt if circumstances had been different, the Home would have definitely helped him more.

Case No. 5

Accepted 9-1-51
Closed 6-7-52

Linwood was born February 11, 1937. His parents were divorced when he was four years old and his mother remarried in 1944. Since 1948 Linwood has been involved in petty thefts and in breaking and entering several homes. Through the Probation Department the boy was referred to Sweetser. Mother was interested in Linwood and very concerned. She felt that trouble was due to friction between Linwood and the stepfather whom she married seven years ago. He was very strict with Linwood and was always "bawling him out." Linwood was in the eighth grade and doing poorly in arithmetic. The mother was considered to be a weak person and there was some question of the stepfather going out with other women.

Treatment: Linwood was able to admit himself that he hated his stepfather and one reason was because he married his mother. The impression of the psychiatrist was that Linwood presented a behavior problem manifested by stealing, lying, severe feelings of guilt and inferiority. There was also an attempt to

make up for his smallness in size by excelling in basketball.

Predisposing factors were, natural parents breaking up when Linwood probably was quite attached to his mother and guilt that he might have been in some way responsible for their separating. Anything that reminded him of this appeared to cause difficulty. Immediate cause was mother's remarriage and natural father going out with another "girl friend." It was felt that Linwood will probably need a fairly prolonged course of casework and will probably have to have a year or more of casework relationship.

Casework centered around clarification of Linwood's role in life and his feelings toward his parents. He was given support in his feelings of rejection and guilt. He was able to see that his feelings of rejection and inferiority had much to do with his stealing. In regard to school he was very fearful about giving public speeches but got support and help from caseworker. His activities in sports were good, especially basketball and baseball. The boy still had an interest in his natural father, and mother and stepfather were quite anxious about this and expressed it in their interviews with caseworker. Linwood expressed satisfaction that he was genuinely accepted at the Home and this had never been felt by him before. His school work improved and where there was a question of his being promoted, he was able to obtain passing grades in arithmetic and English.

There were no episodes of stealing and usually he had his

aggressive behavior in control except if disappointed in some way by parents when he would have a severe temper tantrum.

It was still a matter of time for Linwood to improve even further; however, he was taken home against the Home's advice before he was ready.

Questionnaire: Linwood at present is in the State School for Boys. His adjustment in his own home after he left the Home was poor. His mother relates that they were very impressed with his behavior in the beginning. His manners were very good, he was polite, and very neat and clean. Then he began to get tense and uneasy. He became nervous and had many headaches. In December of 1952, he became involved in a stealing episode and was sent to State School.

Mother felt the boy had been helped at the Home, but that he was taken out by his stepfather too early. After a short period of time, Linwood was in a very confused state.

Case No. 6

Accepted 9-2-51
Closed 6-20-53

Janet was born September 6, 1934, the older of two children. Janet's parents were divorced in 1945. Her mother is now an A.D.C. recipient and unable to work because of a physical condition. Her father remarried and had two children by his second wife. He drank heavily, did not take care of bills and had been abusive towards Janet's mother. At the same time Janet was questioning her mother's activities with other men. Her mother was constantly talking to her against her father.

Janet was referred by mother because of her going out with boys, drinking and being unmanageable. She became illegitimately pregnant in May of 1951 but had a miscarriage.

Treatment: It was the psychiatrist's impression that Janet presented a picture of anxiety state manifested by fears of the future, negativism, with desires to reunite father and mother. She was unable to control unpleasant experiences. Janet had indecisive mother who was afraid of the girl falling into the same rut that she did and insisting upon the patient graduating from high school, because she was unable to do so. Immediate cause of problem was felt to be the return to mother's home from a visit to father's home where she had less rigid control.

Casework relationship was resisted by Janet in the beginning. She was confused about her role concerning the relationship between her parents. Janet talked about mother, father, and brother in very confused way. As casework continued in a more positive manner, she was able to see that her pregnancy was a cause to punish her mother and seemed better able to come to a decision between her parents. Her relationships outside the interview were poor during the first of her placement. She rebelled against authority of any kind and tried very hard to promote agitation in the cottage. It was also very difficult for Janet to stay in during evenings and she did very well in this respect. During her second year at the Home Janet was more determined to finish high school and she did. Casework was more on an intermittent basis and centered

around everyday problems.

Questionnaire: Janet has been living with her mother since she left the Home. Her adjustment has been good and her relationship to people is good. There have been no anti-social activities. She is unemployed at present because of a recent injury. Mother felt that Janet was helped but did not indicate in what area.

The Home reports that Janet has been back to visit several times. She related the difficulties presented by a demanding mother and a father who was running around with different women. She readily admitted that she had been tempted to follow an anti-social path, but pulled herself together when she thought of all the help and attention given to her at Sweetser.

Case No. 7

Accepted 3-13-52
Closed 1-14-53

Ruel was born February 19, 1940. He was an illegitimate child and had been adopted by his maternal grandparents. His mother lived in the same home but was known to Ruel as his sister. At an early age he had Legg's Perthe's disease and was in the hospital until 1947. He did not enter school until the year of 1950-51. Ruel's grandmother has always been over-protective of him and would not allow the boy out to work or play with the other children. She was instrumental in keeping him from school a great deal of the time. He was referred by his grandmother because of headaches, stubbornness, feeling

sick at times, temper tantrums and being very hard to manage.

Treatment: Psychiatrist's impression was behavior problem manifested by Ruel's inability to get along with other children, enuresis, and general feelings of inferiority. Predisposing factors were felt to be overprotecting grandparents, being born out of wedlock and sick grandfather. Immediate cause was Legg's Perthe's disease with chronic hospitalization. Recommendation was that Ruel should be allowed to do as much as he could on his own and little should be done in a medical way. His I.Q. was given as 91.

In the casework relationship Ruel was able to relieve his feelings of inferiority; especially the fact that he couldn't do anything other boys did because of his leg. He believed his natural mother was his sister and this was clarified for him. His relationship with the caseworker gave him support to enter more activities. This was one of the goals of this casework relationship.

During the time Ruel was at the Home his grandmother died. Ruel, shortly after this, was dismissed from Sweetser. The casework relationship was continued. After a period of time through clarification to the family about not making an invalid out of the boy, Ruel was able to spread his interests and activities in skating, singing on the radio, Boys' Club. It was also evident that where Ruel was pretty dependent on casework relationship in the beginning, this dependency decreased quite a bit in the end.

Questionnaire: Ruel is still living in his own home. His father writes that Ruel's adjustment has been good and that the boy is happy at home. He gets along fine with everyone and is a good "mixer". Ruel likes the Boy Scouts and is a good church goer. He is in the fifth grade in school and receives good marks. He likes school and plans to go through high school.

Ruel's father went on to relate that he felt the boy was helped very much. The Home taught him things he would never have learned at a public school. The Home seemed to have had quite a great interest in him. Ruel, himself, enjoyed his stay and talks about coming to visit sometime.

Case No. 8

Accepted 7-13-52
Closed 12-23-52

Dorothy was born December 11, 1939. She was referred from Child and Family Services. They report that Dorothy was quite upset at the separation of her parents. Her mother had tried to alienate her from her father but the more she did this the more Dorothy was determined to go with him. In April of 1951 Dorothy was taken by her father to live with him but he then placed her in a foster home. Shortly after, Dorothy was removed from there forcibly by her mother. Her father then tried to obtain custody but was denied by the court. Dorothy, during this time, was having hysterical outbursts. She lost interest in school and magnified dramatically everything that happened to her. She seemed tired, tense, and had a changing personality.

Treatment: Psychiatrist felt that Dorothy was upset over the divorce of her parents and was having difficulty attempting to figure out just what this divorce meant to her. It appeared to be somewhat of a reaction problem rather than a long time behavior problem.

Casework had to do with clarifying Dorothy's confused thinking about whom she wanted to go to and why. Through identification with caseworker she had some intensive work where feelings regarding mother were gone over. She got to a point where she felt her mother was good but too anxious and confused to be helpful to her. Her desire was to go to live with her father, whom she considered stronger than her mother.

Dorothy did not present any serious problem at the Home and did not have any recurrence of her behavior symptoms prior to her admittance. She got along well with children and adults. When discharged she went to live in a foster home near her father in Massachusetts.

Questionnaire: Dorothy is now living in her own home. Mother relates that Dorothy has made only a fair adjustment. She is hard to "make mind" and always wanted her own way. She was not too helpful around the home and had a poor relationship with her brother with whom she was always bickering.

She is a freshman in high school and is receiving poor grades. Dorothy did not like school. Mother did not feel that there was much change in Dorothy.

Dorothy did not live with mother on leaving the home but came seven months afterwards.

Case No. 9

Accepted 8-27-52
Closed 6-15-53

Justina was born December 16, 1935, one of two children. Parents asked for help with Justina, as she was having difficulty keeping up in school, was lazy. She was beginning to chum around with undesirable youngsters and they felt that she would get in trouble. They specifically asked mostly for special tutoring for Justina, as she was behind in school. Through intake it appeared that mother and daughter had never gotten along too well and seemed overprotective of Justina. Both mother and father were working and had been unable to give proper supervision for some time.

Justina had a spinal bifida operation at the age of one. When admitted she was physically normal except for bladder control which caused her to bedwet at night and sometimes during the day.

Treatment: It was the opinion of the psychiatrist that Justina appeared to have developed a rather severe anxiety state, associated with her physical difficulties, manifested by her inability to control her urination, ambivalence, easy fatigue, tension, boredom and some negativism. Her weak bladder control was felt to be a combination of physical and emotional factors with the emotional part taking precedence.

It was recommended that she be given individual help in her schooling and also be given more opportunity to make her own decisions. When admitted Justina was a freshman in high school and had an intelligence quotient of 100.

Throughout her stay at Sweetser, Justina had regular casework. In the beginning it centered around her feelings toward her parents and their relationship towards her. She was given individual help and support from caseworker and staff towards keeping her in school when it became too threatening. This was very difficult for Justina was fearful of wetting herself and did on several occasions. Through casework, she was able to realize that her enuresis was emotionally based. As she was able to get through her year at school she gained more confidence and began to do more things herself. Her enuresis decreased to quite an extent.

Parents were also seen by caseworker. Justina's problems were discussed in relation to her feelings toward her parents, and that much of her behavior had an emotional basis. Through clarification parents were able to see that they would have to be more relaxed and accepting of Justina and give her as much opportunity to be as normal as possible.

After discharge Justina went to her parents and worked in motel during summer where she did fairly well. There was some anxiety about returning to school in the fall; however, she seemed more determined to do as well as she could.

Questionnaire: Justina is now living in her own home. Mother reports that it is very seldom that they have to speak to her about her appearance and she can accept criticism without belligerence. Her relationship with everyone is good. She has been active in group affairs in the community and there have been no anti-social activities. She is in the tenth grade in school and her marks are fair. She enjoys school more this year, as she feels accepted by all and is included in activities despite her handicap. Also, her ranks are average and steadily improving.

Her bladder control is better and she is not so nervous. Mother felt that Justina had been helped at the Home and had it not been for the personnel at the Home, Justina would not have gained the confidence to go back to school and have a fairly normal life. Justina's mother was very thankful of having the opportunity to have interviews at the Home and considered her own adjustment as important as Justina's.

Case No. 10

Accepted 9-28-52
Closed 8-21-53

Maurice was born July 5, 1936, the youngest of three children. Maurice was first referred, by his parents, to the State Mental Hygiene Clinic because of his stealing in 1951. At that time his father was seventy years old and his mother was fifty-five years old. Maurice was seen every other week and was able to talk through some of his feelings about stealing. However, the tension at home was too much for him and his

behavior did not improve to any great degree. It was felt that Maurice would do much better if separated from his parents for a period of time.

From the beginning there was a constant difference, on the part of the parents, over the boy's bringing up. He was not a planned child, however father had always wanted a boy, having had only girls, and mother was quite obviously hiding her guilt of rejection by overprotecting Maurice. Maurice did not mix well with children, would not defend himself in fights, liked animals better than he did people and did not enter any competitive activities, especially sports, though he did have an interest. His I.Q. was reported to be 125.

Treatment: Psychiatrist stated that Maurice appeared to be of above average intelligence and showed a rather marked aptitude toward insight.

In casework Maurice was able to release his hostile feelings toward mother and father; how his father made fun of him and how mother was always suspicious as to whether he had done things correctly; i.e. taken his bath, washed himself, where he had gone to visit. His father would make fun of him when he went with girls or talked about them and therefore he had never had much to do with them.

He came into the casework setting with the idea that his father was better than his mother. He realized that something was bothering his mother and was questioning how this related to him. As casework continued Maurice was able to see his

mother's insecurity in relation to his anti-social activity of stealing. He was now conscious of the overprotection he received in relation to his mother's guilt.

At Sweetser Maurice was able to make a better relationship with girls and enter into more activities, especially in sports. He learned to do things more on his own and to make his own decisions. He finished his junior year in high school and did very well in his studies.

In general, the whole casework relationship was now on a clarification of the question Maurice was raising about his family life and how he could better control the situation and himself.

Questionnaire: Maurice is now living in his own home. He, himself, filled out the questionnaire. He felt that his adjustment at home had improved. His relationship with his sisters was fair and with adults it was good. He has been active in sports in the community, playing basketball and baseball in the church league.

He is now a senior in high school. He felt he was more interested in school than before and that Sweetser helped him to get along better with his parents.

Since his discharge he has visited Sweetser on many occasions, sometimes staying overnight.

Case No. 11

Accepted 3-22-53
Closed 9-12-53

Alfred was born September 2, 1937. He was referred by

the court because community pressure was forcing the judge to seek placement somewhere for the boy as he had assaulted a girl his own age. The town had become so incensed that it demanded the removal of the boy and the court did not want to send him to State School.

Alfred's early history was normal. As he did grow he kept pretty much to himself, and daydreamed often. He didn't have close friends and didn't participate in any competitive sports. Up to 1952 Alfred was rather small in stature; however, in 1952 and 1953 he had grown considerably. At the same time Alfred's mother had gone to work for a period of time to help his two sisters through college.

Treatment: Psychiatrist felt that Alfred was a schizoid individual, with feelings of inferiority. His daydreams were probably those of ego-enforcement and the actual experience (assault on the girl) was probably to bolster his ego. Recommendation was made that the boy not be sent to State School. In his intelligence testing he scored an I.Q. of 115.

During the next six months, casework was intermittent. Though he had a fair relationship with caseworker he did not seem to take much advantage of the interviews. He was a little shy and withdrawn and presented no serious behavior problem. During his placement here he worked at the farm where he had a very positive relationship with the farmer. He remarked in several interviews how he had talked to the farmer about the things that troubled him, but did not specifically take them

up with the caseworker. While here he visited his parents and they in turn visited him. By the end of six months he seemed to have made a good adjustment at the Home. He did not appear so withdrawn and entered into the Home's activities fairly well. Although hardly any intensive casework was done with him, it was felt that Alfred received some clarification of his feelings here and since there were no overt behavior problems he was discharged to his parents.

Questionnaire: Alfred is living in his own home. His parents write that he has adjusted very well. He is helpful around the home and does his work willingly. His relationships in the home and the community are good. At school he has entered into activities and has been working part time where, for his pay, is receiving lobster traps and buoys to use next summer in the lobster business.

While he is not enthusiastic in school, his teachers report cooperation and attention. His mother felt that the Home helped Alfred prove that he could make a place for himself. He has visited several times and is very interested in the Home.

Case No. 12:

Accepted 6-16-52
Closed 6-16-53

Keith was an illegitimate child who was born May 3, 1938. He was privately adopted in infancy. He was referred by his adoptive parents because of his petty stealing, lying and doing poorly in school. His adoptive father was a minister and the community was quite aroused over Keith's behavior with the

result that the adoptive parents were forced to look for placement. Adoptive mother had been working and was unable to supervise Keith.

Treatment: The psychiatrist felt that Keith did not have too severe a behavior problem and that he was feeling rejected and inferior and needed a consistent adult figure. His intelligence quotient was 81.

Keith received regular casework interviews during his stay. In the course of casework with Keith, it was found that the marital situation of his parents was disturbing him to quite an extent. His father was going out with another woman because of his mother's frigidity. During the year, the adoptive father was asked to resign from the church and the parents were divorced.

Keith was cognizant of his father going out with another woman before he came to Sweetser. This was gone over with Keith and he was able to express his anxiety and guilt over the situation. His father at this time moved out of state, so casework could not be continued. His mother withdrew from casework when she could not accept the fact that Keith's difficulties stemmed from her marital difficulties.

Keith was in the eighth grade and completed the year. It was felt that with his limited intelligence he would have difficulty going on to high school.

While at the Home, he had periods of fairly good adjustment, but his anxiety about his home situation would upset him

and during these he would run away. He got along well with children but was not too trusting of adults. He entered activities well and did gain some confidence in his casework.

He was discharged to his father in Massachusetts, who was going to put him in a trade school.

Questionnaire: Keith is now living in a relative's home. His manners are good but he still has the habit of occasionally taking things from other people. His relationship to people in general is good and he has entered activities in the community where he feels he isn't too personally known.

He has not attended school since he was discharged. He worked last summer but now is unemployed. He has been having headaches and seems somewhat nervous.

Keith's mother could not see where he was helped very much and adds that it could have been the fault of the boy and not that of Sweetser.

CHAPTER V

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The purpose of this study was to obtain a total picture of the child's adjustment since leaving the Home and what problems were taken up in the treatment situation.

The writer is well aware that the results obtained by the mailed questionnaire do not allow for complex probing and observations concerning specific social behavior. At best it can give only a minimum amount of general information, therefore only a fair indication of the child's adjustment.

TABLE IV
RESULTS OF QUESTIONNAIRES RECEIVED

Group	State	Private Agencies	Private Family
Adjustment Good	11	2	6
Adjustment Fair	3	3	3
Adjustment Poor	4	4	3
Total	18	9	12

Of the four children from the state who had adjusted poorly, two children were in foster homes where the foster mother either had a nervous breakdown or was extremely anxious over a child's behavior difficulty. The other two children were considered by the Home as too seriously damaged emotionally

to be helped.

Of the four children who had adjusted poorly from the private agency group, one had returned home before treatment was completed, one returned to an emotionally unstable adoptive mother, who is still receiving psychiatric casework help from an agency, and one returned to a home that was definitely not felt suitable by Sweetser.

Of the three children who had adjusted poorly from the private family group, two were taken home by parents against advice from Sweetser and one child had definite brain damage.

TABLE V

AVERAGE LENGTH OF RESIDENCE FOR EACH GROUPING

Group	Length of Stay
State	12 months
Private Agency	11 months 3 days
Private Family	10 months 27 days
Total Over-all Average	11 months 12 days

In the over-all picture of the school situation, twenty-nine children continued school of which two graduated from high school and three went to college. Ten children terminated their schooling. From these ten children, two had gone to the State School, three had gone to the State Hospital, two had gone into the service, one had become illegitimately pregnant, and two had left school.

TABLE VI
AVERAGE AGE OF CHILD AT TIME OF ADMITTANCE

Group	Age
State	12 years and 5 months
Private Agency	11 years and 6 months
Private Family	<u>13 years and 6 months</u>
Total Average	12 years and 5 months

There was a great variety of problems presented including temper tantrums, lying, petty stealing, nightmares, bedwetting, masturbation, nail biting, aggressive behavior, cruelty to animals and children, headstrong, hysterical episodes, sexual play, fear of strange places and situations, inability to get along with other children and adults, untrustworthiness, inability to get along in school, to mention some of the most important.

Casework service was continued by the Home in three cases after discharge. There appeared adequate indication that it had value not only for the child but for the parents.

Casework service at the Home was given in varying degrees, depending on the child's problem, resistance to relationship, age, and where it was felt that the child could benefit most by a warm, stable and consistent relationship with the cottage parents.

There appeared to be a definite lack of work with parents although it was recognized, by the writer, that some children

did not have parents and that a few parents were unable to come in for regular interviews because of distance.

In conclusion a greater number of children have made at least a fair adjustment since their discharge from Sweetser. Generally speaking, the child continued his good adjustment away from the Home only insofar as he was continually accepted and receiving an adequate amount of attention.

Most children referred from the state had only foster homes to return to whereas, as expected, the private family group had their own parents. In the private agency group almost half the children were essentially placed in foster homes run by a private agency.

In cases where children received little casework help and where most of their needs were met on the cottage level, would point out the fact that these children could very well have been cared for in foster homes with adequate supervision by caseworker. Since most of the cases of which we are speaking, were referred from the state, it seems evident that these children would not have been referred here had there been perhaps more adequate supervision and smaller case load.

It would seem to the writer that where this appears to be a problem with the state, and where it most likely will continue indefinitely, the Home could well afford to look into a foster home program of its own in the future.

Approved:
Richard K. Conant
Richard K. Conant,
Dean

APPENDIXSchedule

- I. Name
 - Date of Birth
 - School
- II. Parents:
 - Father
 - Mother
 - Marriage
 - Personality
- III. Home Conditions:
 - Desertion
 - Immorality
 - Alcoholism
 - Relationships
- IV. Sweetser-Children's Home
 - Treatment
 - a.) Psychiatric impression
 - b.) Mental testing
 - c.) Treatment
 - Adjustment
 - a.) Cottage
 - b.) School

Date _____

QUESTIONNAIRE

NAME.....Age.....

PRESENT WHEREABOUTS: (Check) Foster Home....Relative's Home...
Own Home.....Elsewhere.....ADJUSTMENT SINCE LEAVING SWEETSER-CHILDREN'S HOMEA. ADJUSTMENT IN PRESENT HOME

- a. Personal habits and manners Good....Fair....Poor....
 b. Remarks.....

B. RELATIONSHIPS WITH:

- | | <u>Good</u> | <u>Fair</u> | <u>Poor</u> |
|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| a. Children | | | |
| b. Brothers and sisters | | | |
| c. Adults | | | |
| d. Relatives | | | |
| e. Remarks..... | | | |
| | | | |

C. ADJUSTMENT IN COMMUNITY

- | | <u>Good</u> | <u>Fair</u> | <u>Poor</u> |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| a. Activities (groups, clubs,
church, etc.) | | | |
| b. Attitudes toward same | | | |
| c. Antisocial activities - Yes....No....If "Yes" explain
briefly..... | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

D. ADJUSTMENT IN SCHOOL

- a. Grade in school.....
 b. School grades - Good.... Fair.... Poor....
 c. Attitude toward school.....

E. IF OUT OF SCHOOL

- a. Last grade attended.....
 b. Employment record - Steady.....Intermittent.....
 Unemployed.....

F. GENERAL HEALTH

- a. Any important change.....

REMARKS:.....
.....
.....

In your opinion, has this child been helped at Sweetser?

Yes.....No.....

Remarks:.....
.....

(Signed).....

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